

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ treating an inflammatory skin or mucous membrane disease, comprising administering intradermally to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of hyaluronic acid in crosslinked form.
2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein administering is by local administration.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein administering is ~~by intradermal administration, by administration to the border of the dermoepithelial transition or by topical administration.~~
4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the degree of crosslinking is 0.1% to 10%.
5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the crosslinked hyaluronic acid is present in a mixture with uncrosslinked hyaluronic acid.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the uncrosslinked hyaluronic acid is
 - (i) long-chain hyaluronic acid having an average molecular weight (weight-average) of at least 200 kD, or
 - (ii) short-chain hyaluronic acid having an average molecular weight (weight-average) up to 50 kD, or
 - (iii) a mixture thereof.
7. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid is in a composition which contains an inhibitor of hyaluronic acid degradation.
8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 7, wherein the inhibitor of

hyaluronic acid degradation is heparin, indomethacin, a salicylate, a free radical trap, or vitamin A, C or E, or a mixture thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid is present as an injectable preparation, ~~ointment, cream, lotion, gel, spray, tincture, shampoo, occlusive film, powder or inhalable preparation.~~

10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the hyaluronic acid is in a composition which contains a further glycosaminoglycan in crosslinked or uncrosslinked form.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inflammatory skin or mucous membrane disease is atopic dermatitis, eczema, seborrheic or microbial eczema, pruritus, prurigo, urticaria, red lichen, psoriasis, psoriasis vulgaris, vitiligo, a viral skin disease which leads to wart formation, verruca vulgaris, Condylomata accuminata, rosacea, perioral dermatitis, acne, acne vulgaris, acne conglobata, a polypous mucous membrane disease, nasal polyposis, an inflammatory intestinal disease, a chronic or acute ulceration of the skin, aphthae or mycoses.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the subject is a veterinary patient.

14-21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inflammatory skin or mucous membrane disease is atopic dermatitis.

23. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inflammatory skin or mucous membrane disease is a viral skin disease which leads to wart formation.

24. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inflammatory skin or mucous membrane disease is acne vulgaris.